What is claimed is:

1. A method for operation of a computer system for identification tagging a document created by said computer system comprising the steps of:

calculating a function of the document;

5   creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on said function of the document and a unique processor identifier associated with said computer system, said cryptographic function producing an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party possessing said document, said identification tag, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an

10   associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can determine said computer system which created said document; and

attaching said identification tag to said document.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said function of the document is a hash function.

15   3. The method of claim 1 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of equality.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said cryptographic function is a Message Authentication Code.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said relationship between a unique

20   processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation .

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said unique processor identifier is stored in

25   a processor of said computer system.

8. A processor comprising:

a stored unique processor identifier; and

stored tag function program code which when executed by the processor calculates an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on a function

30   of a document and said unique processor identifier, wherein said cryptographic function produces an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party

possessing said identification tag, said document, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can identify said processor.

9. The processor of claim 8 wherein said function of a document is a hash
5   function.

10. The processor of claim 8 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of equality.

11. The processor of claim 10 wherein said cryptographic function is a Message Authentication Code.

10   12. The processor of claim 8 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

13. The processor of claim 12 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation.

15   14. A computer system for identification tagging a document created by said computer system comprising:

  means for calculating a function of the document;

  means for creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on said function of the document and a unique processor identifier associated
20 with said computer system, said cryptographic function producing an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party possessing said document, said identification tag, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can determine said computer system which created said document; and

25   means for attaching said identification tag to said document.

15. The computer system of claim 14 wherein said function of the document is a hash function.

16. The computer system of claim 14 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of
30 equality.

17. The computer system of claim 16 wherein said cryptographic function is Message Authentication Code.

18. The computer system of claim 14 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

19. The computer system of claim 18 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation.

20. The computer system of claim 14 wherein said unique processor identifier is stored in a processor of said computer system.